

Message Text

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: LIMITATION OF AIR FORCE MANPOWER

REF: A) MBFR VIENNA 353; B) STATE 233739; C) STATE 229321

D) MBFR VIENNA 327; E) STATE 236950

1. USDEL MBFR IN REF A STATED ASSUMPTION THAT IMPLICIT IN NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR MANPOWER IS IDEA THAT ALLIES WILL HAVE TO BE IN A POSITION TO TELL THE EAST THAT THIS COMMITMENT WOULD BE EXTENDED IN A PHASE II AGREEMENT.

2. HOWEVER, AS VIENNA NOTED, US PROPOSAL PRESENTLY UNDER EXAMINATION IN SPC IS "INCLUSION OF AIRMANPOWER IN PROPOSED NO INCREASE AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD LIMIT ALLIANCE AND WP MANPOWER BETWEEN PHASES." WASHINGTON MOST RECENTLY UNDERLINED ITS DESIRE FOR A COMMITMENT LIMITED IN DURATION IN PARA 4, REF B. MISSION, PER PARA 1, REF C, INTRODUCED IN SPC DRAFT GUIDANCE ON NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT CONTAINING THE FOLLOWING FINAL SENTENCE: "THE AHG SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO THE EAST, IF NECESSARY, SECRET

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THAT THIS SUGGESTION IN NO WAY IMPLIES CEILINGS OR REDUCTIONS ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER IN PHASE II." PURPOSE OF THIS SENTENCE WAS TO MEET FRG CONCERN ON THIS POINT BY SEEKING TO SEPARATE NON-INCREASE ISSUE FROM CEILING AND REDUCTIONS ISSUES, PENDING

SPC WORK ON THESE LATTER TWO ISSUES. WE INTRODUCED THIS TEXT PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REF D, IN WHICH VIENNA PRESENTS REASONS WHY THE SENTENCE QUOTED ABOVE MAY NOT BE DESIRABLE.

3. MISSION BELIEVES THAT IF ALLIES OFFER WP A NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR MANPOWER BETWEEN PHASES, ALLIES WOULD LOGICALLY ALSO NEED TO INDICATE EVENTUALLY A WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT SOME KIND OF CEILING ON AIR MANPOWER IN PHASE II. HOWEVER, THIS CEILING NEED NOT BE AN EXTENSION OF THE NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION IN SPC. THE US PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE AIRMANPOWER IN PRESENT NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT "ON GROUND FORCES AVOIDS PREJUDGING THE QUESTION OF A SEPARATE SUB-CEILING ON AIR MANPOWER. HOWEVER, A SATISFACTORY PHASE II AGREEMENT WILL AUTOMATICALLY SUPERSEDE THE NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT, AT LEAST AS FAR AS GROUND FORCES ARE CONCERNED. EXTENSION OF AIR MANPOWER ASPECTS OF THE NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT INTO PHASE II WOULD THUS LEAVE THE ALLIES WITH AN EFFECTIVE SUB-CEILING ON AIR MANPOWER. WASHINGTON MAY THEREFORE WISH TO SEEK ANOTHER MEANS OF ESTABLISHING SOME KIND OF CEILING ON AIRMANPOWER IN PHASE II, I.E., THROUGH THE NEXT PROPOSAL THE US WISHES NATO TO CONSIDER INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING WITHOUT REQUIRED AIR REDUCTIONS (REF E). IN ANY EVENT, MISSION BELIEVES BEST CHANCE FOR EATLY NAC APPROVAL OF NON-INCREASE GUIDANCE NOW UNDER PREPARATION IN SPC IS TO COMTIMUE TO TRY TO KEEP THAT GUIDANCE LIMITED TO PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES AND SEPARATE FROM ISSUE OF PHASE II CEILING ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER.

4. MISSION DOES NOT BELIEVE FINAL SENTENCE OF US TEXT IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THIS SEPARATION. UK AND NETHERLANDS LAST WEEK IN SPC SUGGESTED ELIMINATING THAT SENTENCE. BELGIUM AT OCTOBER 28 SPC ALSO SUGGESTED ITS DELETION ON GROUNDS THAT IT MIGHT LEAD PACT TO THINK ALLIES ACTUALLY INTEND TO INCREASE AIR MANPOWER IN PHASE II. HOWEVER, FRG REP AT OCTOBER 28 SPEC SAID FRG WANTED THE LAST SENTENCE, ALTHOUGH HE THOUGHT FRG COULD ACCEPT DELETION OF "CEILINGS OR," MAKING THE LAST SENTENCE LIMPLY A CAVEAT THAT ALLIES WERE NOT INCLUDING REDUCTIONS IN THEIR PROPOSAL (NOTE: THIS CAVEAT WOULD DHUS BE COMPARABLE TO SECRET

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THE CAVEAT WASHINGTON WISHES IN GUIDANCE ON INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING WITHOUT REDUCTIONS (REF E).

5. SINCE PURPOSE OF LAST SENTENCE IN US TEXT WAS SOLELY TO ASSURE FRG WE INTEND TO ACCEPT FRG REPS' SUGGESTION TO DELETE "CEILINGS OR" FROM THAT SENTENCE, AT THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31 SPC MEETING, SIMILARLY, IF MAJORITY DEVELOPS FOR DELETION OF ENTIRE SENTENCE, WE INTEND TO GO ALONG, ALTHOUGH WE EXPECT FRG, AND PERHAPS BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS AND UK AS WELL, WILL WISH TO RETAIN THE PART OF THE SENTENCE WHICH CONCERNS REDUCTIONS. MCAULIFFE.

SECRET

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